

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ONY-00 ARAE-00 /013 W  
-----222038Z 043845 /46

P 221838Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6791  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1178

DEPARTMENT FOR ARA AND D/HA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, CS, NU  
SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN ADVICE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: MANAGUA 1313

1. AT MY REQUEST, FONMIN FACIO RECEIVED ME AT FOREIGN MINISTRY LATE AFTERNOON MARCH 21. I TOLD FACIO THAT SINCE HE HAD INDICATED HE WOULD TRAVEL TO MANAGUA ON MARCH 22 TO DISCUSS NICARAGUAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WITH SOMOZA, I THOUGHT HE WOULD WANT TO KNOW THAT AMBASSADOR THEBERGE HAD HELD MORE THAN ONE CONVERSATION ON THAT SUBJECT WITH SOMOZA IN RECENT MONTHS. I SAID THAT IT WAS MY IMPRESSION THAT CONVERSATIONS HAD BEEN FRANK AND CANDID, BUT THAT I WAS UNAWARE OF ANY SIGNIFICANT RESULTS. I SAID THAT AMBASSADOR THEBERGE HAD URGED SOMOZA TO UNDERTAKE IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATIONS OF RESPONSIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AS WELL AS TO APPLY APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS WHEN AND WHERE INDICATED. TO BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, SOMOZA WAS NOT YET CONVINCED OF VALUE OF ADOPTION OF AMBASSADOR THEBERGE'S SUGGESTION. I TOLD FACIO I RECOGNIZED THAT HE WOULD BE MAKING HIS OWN PRESENTATION TO SOMOZA BASED ON HIS OWN ANALYSIS AND PERCEPTIONS.  
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HOWEVER, IF HE THOUGHT AMBASSADOR THEBERGE'S SUGGESTION WAS MERITORIOUS AND IF IT FIT INTO HIS OWN PRESENTATION, HE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER MAKING THAT POINT TO SOMOZA AGAIN.

2. FACIO WAS RECEPTIVE AND APPRECIATIVE. HE SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO MANAGUA PREPARED TO GIVE SOMOZA HIS FRANK

VIEWS. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT SOMOZA'S REACTION WOULD BE, BUT HE FELT IT HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT SOMOZA UNDERSTAND CLEARLY HOW HE AND THE GON WERE PERCEIVED BY HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES AND HOW IMPORTANT THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WAS TO THE GON. HE THOUGHT THE SUGGESTION OF IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATIONS AND APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION WAS EXCELLENT AND WOULD PROVIDE A POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE CAP TO HIS PRESENTATION.

3. FACIO SAID THAT WHILE HE WAS GOING TO MANAGUA TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS AT REQUEST OF SOMOZAGAM AND IN OBSERVANCE OF LONG-STANDING GOCR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY, HE ALSO HAD OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND. SPECIFICALLY HE WAS CONCERNED THAT SOMOZA, OUT OF ANGER OR PRESSURE OR BOTH, MIGHT GO THE WAY OF SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA AND SPURN U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE. HE FEARED THAT THE THREE GOVERNMENTS MIGHT THEN GO ON TO FORM A POLITICAL/ MILITARY BLOC IN CENTRAL AMERICA WHICH OVER TIME WOULD HAVE A DESTABILIZING EFFECT ON COSTA RICA. BY COUNSELING SOMOZA ON HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS AND BY URGING SOMOZA NOT TO GO WAY OF SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA, HE HOPED TO PREVENT NICARAGUA FROM ESTABLISHING BASIS FOR SOLIDARITY WITH OTHER TWO CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES.

4. FACIO SAID THAT HE WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSING WITH SOMOZA GON'S REPORTED DISCONTENT OVER COLOMBIAN/COSTA RICAN MARITIME TREATY. GON INTERESTS WERE NOT AFFECTED BY THAT TREATY, HE SAID, AND THOSE NICARAGUANS WHO THOUGHT OTHERWISE WERE SIMPLY UNFAMILIAR EITHER WITH

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FACTS OF HISTORY OR WITH FEATURES OF TREATY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SHUM, OVIP, CS, NU, US, (SAMOZA DEBAYLE, ANASTASIO), (FACIO SEGRED, GONZALO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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